

Tool Talk Safety Meeting

May 26, 2020

Staying Focused, SCB Use, COVID-19

Staying focused on the task at hand

Becoming distracted in a work zone, when driving, operating equipment, working in and around shop and yard facilities increased risk of injury or a near miss. Clearly, risk increases when we aren't focused on our task.

Here are two recent instances where distraction was a factor; both happened during fueling operations at the yard. One incident was a near miss that occurred when the person fueling up forgot to return the fuel hose to the pump when finished and pulled away with the hose still in the fuel tank. Fortunately, someone else was paying attention, saw what was happening and was able to alert the driver who stopped before moving far enough to rip the hose from the pump. In the second instance, at another division, the driver was not so lucky and ripped the fuel hose from the pump while pulling away after fueling up.

Pay attention to what you are thinking and doing. Observe when your attention may be slipping, bring your attention back to your current environment and focus on the task at hand before moving onto the next task.

Equipment SCB use

If you use an SCB you need to fuel it up when back at the yard, clean out the debris box after each time it goes out, clean off the tires, power wash the unit, and report in writing on the equipment write up sheet any problems or issues. No one is authorized to change any head configurations. Leave them how they are configured. If a head change is needed, get a mechanic to properly change the head. No changes just because you like a particular SCB. They are all operating properly, unless an issue has been reported. Before taking the SCB out on the road, check the oil.

COVID-19 Guidelines

The impact of COVID-19 virus on life and our economy has been devastating. The number of cases is declining. However, as we move forward in a world with the presence of COVID-19 we must exercise good judgement. Stay up to date on guidelines from the CDC and health department. Protect yourself and others from being exposed to the virus by following simple practices that are also company policy.

- Practicing social distance at all times by maintaining 6' distance from others
- Wear a proper face mask when maintaining good social distance is not possible
- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces

How COVID-19 is spread: The latest CDC reports that COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs
- COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms
- The CDC now reports that the virus does not spread easily in other ways such as from touching surfaces or objects. However, the virus can be spread by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose or possibly the eyes.

